



Established 1953

10-110 WATERSAVER COMPANY, INC.

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October 29, 2010

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NOV - 5 2010
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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Docket No. 10-110

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

I am writing to you concerning the pending merger of Qwest and CenturyLink. Watersaver Company has been an Integra Telecom customer since 2002, and is very pleased with the consistent level of service that we have been receiving from Integra. It is critical to our business that we continue to receive reliable telecommunications and internet access services.

It is our understanding that CenturyLink is the first rural carrier to acquire a regional Bell Operating Company, and that it has little to no experience serving major urban areas like Denver, Colorado. We are concerned that the service of all residents and businesses in our state which rely directly or indirectly on Qwest's network may be adversely affected by this merger. We urge you, in reviewing this merger, to ensure that service quality and local service competition are not harmed by the transaction. The merged company must have the appropriate incentives and technical and operational resources to continue to serve all of its customers whether wholesale or retail at the same levels Qwest does today.

Our community and our businesses depend upon a common telecommunications infrastructure and we are counting on the FCC and the state commission to prevent any disruptions to it as a result of this transaction.

Regards,

Barbara Gill
Office Manager

cc: PUC Commissioners

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Serving Cottonwood, Jackson, Lincoln, Lyon and Redwood Counties

October 27, 2010

Received & Inspected

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 Seventh Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

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Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of Big Buddies of Western Community Action, I would like to provide a non-profit's perspective on the proposed merger of CenturyLink and Qwest Communications.

Western Community Action serves residents in five counties in southwestern Minnesota, offering antipoverty initiatives including meeting the basic needs of providing food and clothing, emergency housing, educating youth and transportation. Big Buddies of Western Community Action is a community-based youth mentoring program, nurturing personal growth and higher academic achievement. Both CenturyLink and Qwest Communications have provided us financial support for years, providing funding for our Big Buddies Program and an academic mentoring program; Century Link even provided help in wiring our current building when it was constructed this year, which kept our infrastructure costs to a minimum.

The reason donations of Century Link and Qwest are noteworthy is because they are examples of rare grants given to rural America. There is a huge disparity, according to a recent Bridge study, between grants given by Foundations and Fortune 500 companies to the metro area and rural communities. In fact, while 29% of America's population lives in rural America -- 21% of that group living in poverty, only 6.8% of Foundation giving goes to rural America.

Both CenturyLink and Qwest have made a commitment to the communities they serve as demonstrated by their grants to both metro and rural non-profits. What we are able to do is because of partnerships such as these. CenturyLink and Qwest have demonstrated they are good corporate citizens and because we know they will continue their tradition of giving back to the communities they serve, we support their business decision to combine their resources to participate in the increasingly competitive communications marketplace, delivering increased value and more products and services than either company could offer alone.

Sincerely,

Allan Bakke
Allan Bakke
Big Buddies Program Director

cc: Federal Communications Commission

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